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Remarks:

Regarding the rejection of claims 1-15, 18-19 under 35 USC 102(b) in view of US 6221823 to Crisanti, as evidenced by US 3833731 to Grier and/or US 4104374 to Reuther:

The applicants respectfully traverse this rejection in view of the Crisanti reference, in view of Grier and/or Reuther.

The currently amended claims, namely claim 1 and newly presented claims 21 - 24 which has been amended to include the limitation of prior claim 16 is believed to render all of the current claims allowable. The currently amended claims, particularly claim 1 and new claims 21 - 24, are believed to overcome the Examiner's rejection based on the Crisanti reference further in view of the Grier and/or Reuther references.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the propriety of the current rejection and withdrawal of the rejection based on the foregoing references is solicited.

Regarding the rejection of claims 16 and 20 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of US 6221823 to Crisanti:

The applicants respectfully traverse the present rejection in view of the Crisanti reference.

With regard to the rejection of claim 16, the cancellation of said claim in the present paper is believed to render the outstanding rejection moot.

With respect now to claim 20, in view of the amendments to claim 1 from which this claim depends which claim is believed to render that claim to be both novel and non-obvious over the prior art, the present dependent claim 20 is similarly believed to be novel and non-obvious as it incorporates the same limitations of claim 1

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Similarly, newly presented claims 20 – 24 are believed to be both novel and non-obvious over the prior art of record.

The amendments entered to the claims herein are not intended to disclaim any patentable subject matter, and are to be entered without prejudice or traverse. The applicant expressly reserves their right to reinstate any subject matter canceled in this paper in a later filed application.

In view of the foregoing amendments to the claims and remarks presented, withdrawal of all grounds of rejection and allowance of the claims to grant is requested. Early issuance of a *Notice of Allowability* is requested.

Should the Examiner believe that telephonic communication will advance the prosecution of the present application they are invited to telephone the undersigned at their convenience.

PETITION FOR A THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

The applicants respectfully petition the Commissioner for a three-month extension of time in order to permit for the timely entry of this paper, and the accompanying RCE. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263 with respect to this Petition.

CONDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION FOR FEES

Should any further fee be required by the Commissioner in order to permit the timely entry of this paper, including any extension of time fees, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

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Respectfully Submitted;

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11 May 2007
Date:

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Certification of Telefax Transmission:

I hereby certify that this paper is being telefax transmitted to the US Patent and
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Sharon White-McCaskey
Sharon White-McCaskey

May 11, 2007
Date

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